17280.84 crores whereas loans issued* by them druing the year 1996-97 amounted to
Rs. 3781.40 crores.

(b) The details of number of customers benefited as represented by number of deposit accounts and borrowal accounts of all the 196 RRBs as on 31st March, 1997 are given below:—

(Number in lacs)

Total deposit accounts*	392.02
Total borrowal accounts*	116.42
Total customers benefited	508.44

(c) The details of loans issued* by RRBs during the last three years is as follows:—

(Rs. in crores)

1994-95	2316.45
1995-96	3267.79
1996-97	3781.40

Further, the position of amounts recovered* by RRBs is as under:—

(Rs. in crores)

Year July-June	Amount recovered	Percentage of recovery to demand
1993-94	1460.85	46.2
1994-95	1870.36	50.9
1995-96	2438.99	55.2

*Data Provisional

Negotiation for Appointment of Pre-shipment Assessment Agency

714. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are negotiating with Societe Generale De Surveillance. S.A., Geneva for appointing it as the pre-shipment assessment agency for imports into India; and

(b) if so, the reasons for doing so and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) Several complaints have been received from time to time about undervaluation and misclassification of imported goods leading to loss of revenue as also undue delays in cargo clearance at the ports and airports. With a view to overcoming these problems, Government have been consideriang several measures. Recently, the Directorate of Valuation has been set up to disseminate information on international prices and also monitor valuation practices in the Customs formations. One of the suggestions that came up for consideration in this regard was the use of pre-shipment inspection for ensuring correct classification and valuation of imported goods. It is in this context four pre-shipment companies made presentations on the role of pre-shipment inspection. No. decision has been taken in the matter.

Economic Growth Rate

715. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the country's economic growth rate for the present;

(b) the State having the highest economic growth in the country;

(c) the economic growth rate of each State; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the present growth rate of the country has slowed down again?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) As per the revised estimates released by SCO in July 1997, the growth rate of GDP during 1996-97 was 6.8%.

(b) and (c) The estimates of economic growth rate, as compiled by respective state Directorates of Economics and Statistics, for the year 1995-96 are given in the Statement (*See* below)

As per the available estimates, State of Maharashtra is having the highest economic growth rate of 8.5% in 1995-96.

(d) The average growth rate of the country in the last three years was 7%.

Statement

Annual Growth Rate of NSDP at Constant (1980-81) Prices from 1993-94 to 1995-96

As On 7.11.1997
(Per cent)

Sl. No.	State/U.T.	1993-94 (A)	1994-95 (P)	1995-96 (Q)
1.	Andhra Pr.	9.7	0.0	5.7
2.	Arunachal Pr.	14.4	4.2	7.4
3.	Assam	3.9	3.4	1.5
4.	Bihar	3.2	8.4	6.9
5.	Goa	4.2	3.1	0.7
6.	Gujarat	−1.5	13.2	−2.0
7.	Haryana	4.5	7.2	1.9
8.	Himachal Pr.	3.9	5.4	7.1
9.	J & K	3.9	—	—
10.	Karnataka	7.6	4.0	5.4
11.	Kerala	10.0	7.6	6.2
12.	Madhya Pr.	9.2	3.0	4.0
13.	Maharashtra	10.8	6.2	8.5
14.	Manipur	4.2	—	—
15.	Meghalaya	7.0	2.8	5.5
16.	Nagaland	1.8	—	—
17.	Orissa	6.4	3.6	5.7
18.	Punjab	4.3	4.4	3.3
19.	Rajasthan	−8.3	19.1	0.2
20.	Sikkim	—	—	—
21.	Tamil Nadu	9.4	9.5	0.1
22.	Tripura	11.0	7.4	—
23.	Uttar Pradesh	1.9	3.3	3.2
24.	West Bengal	8.0	5.4	7.4
25.	A & N Islands	7.9	6.3	—
26.	Delhi	8.9	8.5	—
27.	Pondicherry	−3.3	—	—

बड़े निगमित क्षेत्रों को दिया गया ऋण

716. **श्री सूर्यभान पाटिल वहाडणे:** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) भारत सरकार ने राष्ट्रीय बैंकों के माध्यम से लघु उद्योगों सहित बड़े निगमित क्षेत्रों को वर्ष 1992 से आज तक प्रतिवर्ष कितना ऋण उपलब्ध कराया है;

(ख) इन सभी के पास जब तक ऋण की बकाया राशि कितनी है और इस ऋण को वसूली के लिए क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं; और

(ग) क्या इन सबने सीमा शुल्क, उत्पाद कर, चुंगी और अन्य करों का भुगतान कर दिया है, यदि हां, तो उसका क्षेत्रवार और वर्ष-वार ब्यौरा क्या है और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?